

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-07 NSC-10

SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 L-03 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-11

FEA-02 DRC-01 /166 W

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FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4369

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 0161

FROM USREP ICAO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJ: ICAO - NORTH PACIFIC DIRECT ROUTING PROBLEM - USSR FLIGHT
INFORMATION REGION (FIR)

1. IATA IN CONTACT WITH US REP AND AIR NAV COMMISSION MEMBER RE
PROBLEM OF SOVIET AVOIDANCE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF KURILES FIR AND
RELUCTANCE AGREE SAFE/PRACTICAL FIR BOUNDARIES BETWEEN JAPAN/USSR
IN KURILES/KAMCHATKA REGION THAT WILL ALLOW GREAT CIRCLE ROUTING
BY US AND OTHER MAJOR AIRLINES OPERATING NORTH PACIFIC ROUTE TO
ORIENT.

2. NORTHWEST AIRLINES ESTIMATING QUARTER MILLION DOLLAR COST
ANNUALLY BECAUSE REQUIREMENT FLY AROUND USSR FIR BOUNDARY. AIR
FRANCE, SAS, JAL, ETC. ALSO COMPLAINING BECAUSE CANNOT FLY MORE
ECONOMIC GREAT CIRCLE ROUTING, ESPECIALLY AT TIME OF FUEL SHORTAGE
AND HIGH FUEL COSTS.

3. AT ASIA/PACIFIC REGIONAL AIR NAVMTG AND IN INFORMAL EXCH-
ANGES WITH US REP AND COMMISSIONER, MEMBERS SOVIET DELEGATION
CONTINUE REFER TO AIRSPACE PROBLEM IN THIS REGION AS REQUIRING
"BILATERAL" CONSIDERATION (WITH US) RATHER THAN SIMPLE TECHNICAL
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IMPLEMECTATION ICAO REGIONAL PLAN.

4. IATA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR WROTE SECGEN DECEMBER 7 RE DIRECT ROUTING PROBLEM. WILL COME BEFORE AIR NAV COMMISSION LATER THIS SESSION. ICAO SECRETARIAT AIR NAV BUREAU ON VERGE ASKING ICAO REGIONAL OFFICE BANGKOK CONTACT SOVIET WORKING LEVEL RE THIS PROBLEM. IATA DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT WORKING LEVEL BANGKOK IS NOT PLACE TO UNDERTAKE SOLUTION THIS DELICATE PROBLEM.

5. NOW PRESIDENT HAMMARSKJOLD/IATA PROPOSING WRITE PRES/COUNCIL ASKING HIM COMMUNICATE WITH USSR MIN/TRANSPORT URGING ATTENTION TO ESTABLISHMENT OF ENGLISH-LANGUAGE FIR IN KURILES SERVING ALL AIRLINES ON GREAT CIRCLE ROUTE, AND AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN ON ADJOINING FIR BOUNDARIES. IATA INTENDS EXPRESS CONCERN OTHER SIMILAR FLY-AROUND PROBLEM AREAS SUCH AS PAKISTAN/INDIA AS BEING ESPECIALLY COSTLY IN VIEW FUEL SHORTAGE.

6. APPARENTLY AIRLINES CONSIDER PROBLEM SERIOUS ENOUGH TO WRITE SEPARATE LETTERS DIRECT TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES, IATA AND/OR PRES/COUNCIL (GIVING MULTILATERAL FLAVOR TO EFFORT).

7. US REP ASKED INFORMALLY BY IATA WHETHER US WOULD HAVE SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH AIRLINES INITIATING MAJOR EFFORT TO HAVE ICAO PERSUADE SOVIETS (AT TOP LEVEL) TO ESTABLISH AN OPERATIVE FIR IN SUPPORT OF ALL MAJOR AIRLINE SERVICES USING THE NORTH PACIFIC ROUTE, ALLOWING DIRECT GREAT CIRCLE ROUTING, AND TO CONSULT WITH JAPAN (PERHAPS WITH ONE OR MORE INTERESTED STATES ASSISTING) ON ADJACENT FIR BOUNDARIES THAT WILL PERMIT SAFE, REGULAR OPERATIONS IN THE AREA. IN OPINION US REP AND COMMISSIONER THIS IS EXCELLENT APPROACH AND REQUEST APPROVAL TELL IATA WE HAVE NO OBJECTION.

8. FYI. HAMMARSKJOLD/BINAGHI LETTER DEC. 5, 1973 ON FUEL CRISIS GENERALLY, REQUESTED COUNCIL GIVE "URGENT CONSIDERATION" THIS MATTER. IT WAS CIRCULATED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS IN PRESIDENT'S MEMO 12 DECEMBER BUT HAS NOT LED TO REACTION BY COUNCIL MEMBERS(SEE LAST PARA). IATA NOW PREPARING FURTHER LETTER EMPHASIZING REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION. END FYI.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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